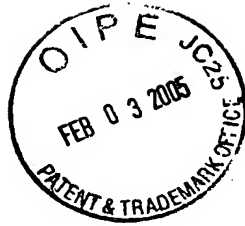


DOCKET NO: 244583US2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
ATSUHISA ASADA : EXAMINER: HURLEY, K.
SERIAL NO: 10/691,543 :
FILED: OCTOBER 24, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3611
FOR: ELECTRIC POWER STEERING :
DEVICE AND METHOD AND
APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING
THE SAME

RESTRICTION RESPONSE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated January 3, 2005, Applicant elects Group I, corresponding to claims 1-3, drawn to an electric power steering apparatus, classified in class 180, subclass 444 **with traverse** for prosecution in the present application.

Applicant traverses the outstanding Restriction Requirement as the outstanding Restriction Requirement has not established that an undue burden would be required if the Restriction Requirement was not issued and if all the claims were examined together. More particularly, MPEP §803 states:

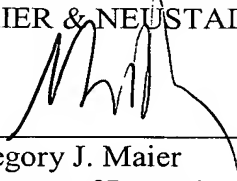
If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

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Reply to Office Action of January 3, 2005

In the present application any search of the elected product claims would also include the classes and subclasses appropriate for searching the non-elected claims, and so then would be no undue burden if all of the claims were examined together.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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